

law. Senator Hoagland is a practicing attorney and as such Senator Hoagland knows the traps for the unwary." I emphasize, the traps for the unwary... "in the legal fabric. And he also knows the great benefits to the knowledgeable in the legal fabric. Given his commitment to social justice over the years, given his belief that the law should be an instrument not only for the wealthy and the powerful but for the impoverished and the powerless and given his belief that the law is an instrument of responsible social utility, he is the kind of person that the folk in the State of Nebraska and we here in the Legislature should have as the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee. He is a man of strength. By strength I mean this. He takes an issue and with the tenacity of a bulldog, offending both friend and foe alike he goes after it and after it and after it, sometimes ad nauseam. But that is the kind of commitment that is required to make certain that the law works well for all of our citizenry because you sometimes have to handle unpopular causes, unpopular legal changes, unpopular legislation to accomplish the right result. I think Senator Hoagland is the kind of person who can give us the vision and the leadership that we require in this body to handle the law, the courts and social justice." I wonder if that same speech would be given were the perfidy of Senator Hoagland known about. I hate to have to inject that into the discussion but the conduct was injected into the consideration and it was grossly unfair. I hope the Legislature in dealing with this issue will be fair. What this resolution deals with is a concept under which Indians on the Winnebago Reservation will handle matters of Indian versus Indian in criminal matters at the misdemeanor level. That's all.

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Non-Indians will not be affected. Non-Indians will never come before the tribal court under retrocession. If a serious offense known as a felony is committed by an Indian on the reservation, that goes into federal court. If a white person commits an offense against an Indian on the reservation, that white person will be tried in federal court. A white person will never come before the tribal court under this retrocession. Senator Goll and others who spoke at that committee said they had no objection to Indians dealing with Indians. That is all that this retrocession that we are asking for would deal with.